

1ST/H.R.V/CORPS Perfin Bulletin 275/12.

Using references from "Pictorial History of the Territorial Battalions 1859-1988" by RAY WESTLAKE, Publisher Spellmount in 1986 - DEREK RANSOM offers the following information.

"I suspect 1ST/H.R.V/CORPS on ½d verm Jubilee is for one of the RIFLE VOLUNTEER CORPS that sprang up in the latter half of the 19th century.

The British Army was totally re-organised under the Cardwell reforms of 1881. Existing Regiments of Foot were paired to become the First and Second Battalions of a County Regiment, that recruited from a specific area, with a central Depot. Allied to the Regiment were the various Volunteer units which, up to this point, had a somewhat tenuous link with the Regulars. Many of these Volunteers were formed into Rifle Volunteer Corps.

According to Westlake there are 4 possibles for 1st HRV:-

1. 1860 1st (Admin) Battalion (Bn) HAMPSHIRE Rifle Volunteers
(area Winchester, Romsey, Andover & Basingstoke)
1880 1st HAMPSHIRE Rifle Volunteer Corps (RVC)
1885 1st (VOLUNTEER BN) THE HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT
2. 1880 1st HEREFORDSHIRE RVC
1881 1st (VOLUNTEER) BN, KINGS SHROPSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY
3. 1880 1st HERTFORDSHIRE RVC
1881 1st (VOLUNTEER) BN, THE BEDFOEDSHIRE REGIMENT
4. 1860 1st (Admin) BN, THE ROYAL SCOTS
1880 1st HADDINGTONSHIRE RVC
1888 7th BN THE ROYAL SCOTS

Since the Jubilee issue did not appear until 1887 the balance of probabilities points to 4.

Haddingtonshire is in the Lothians, between Edinburgh and Dunbar - is there any postmark evidence out there?"

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